

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Peter R. Van Smirren

Art Unit: 3782

Application No: 10/584,397

Examiner: J. M. Larson

Confirmation No: 9226

Filed: June 23, 2006

Atty. Docket No: 31229-232408

For: VEHICLE LOAD CARRIER

Customer No:

26694

PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL ACTION

MS AF

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated January 18, 2011, finally rejecting claims 1, 3, 5-16, and 23, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.

A Request for Continued Examination (RCE) and a Petition for Three-Month Extension of Time are filed concurrently herewith. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiency in any patent application processing fees pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 associated with this communication, and to credit any excess payment, to Deposit Account No. 22-0261.